



January 2016 NewsLetter

400 Kern Street
Taft, CA, 93268
Phone: (661) 765-2165
Fax: (661) 765-6639
www.taftchamber.com
TaftChamber@gmail.com

Our Platinum Sponsors



Our Gold Sponsors



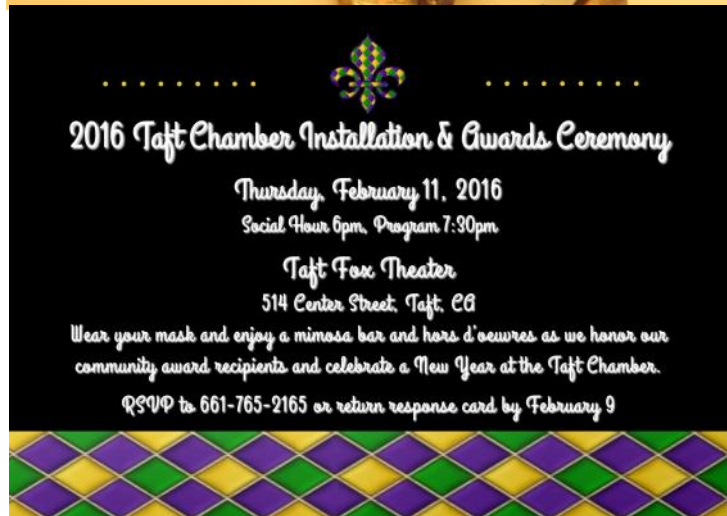
Your Taft District Chamber of Commerce wants to wish you a Happy New Year. As we look ahead to 2016, your Taft Chamber is dedicated to remaining the clearing house for activities and events taking place around town. Tourists, visitors, and residents rely on the information provided in our office to find the goods and services they desire. This is one large reason membership in the Taft Chamber is imperative for your business. Our office refers these individuals to Chamber members only. Membership packets for the upcoming year will be sent out very soon and we encourage you to join for another exciting year.

We are planning a variety of events throughout the year aimed at increasing the number of people coming into our town and being aware of the great things our town has to offer. Our first event will take place on **Thursday, February 11** in downtown Taft at the Taft Fox Theater. Our Annual Installation and Awards Ceremony is a fun event, aimed at recognizing our business leaders, community leaders, and volunteers. We will install our new Board of Directors and spend an evening networking with Chamber members. Tickets are available by calling 661-765-2165. Our theme for this year's event is "Masks & Mimosas—A Mardi Gras Soiree."

Later in the year, we will host our annual Golf Tournament on March 12, Classic Car Show, Fourth of July Fireworks Show, Trout Fishing Derby, and Christmas Parade. Some new events to watch for include a Clay Shoot and we will bring back the popular Gala in a Speakeasy Style event and mixers throughout local businesses.

Join the Chamber today so you won't miss out on the fun! Your membership allows you the opportunity to promote your business through our newsletter, email blasts, and in our office.







3rd Annual Triple Play Dinner

JANUARY 22, 2015

6:00-7:00 NO HOST COCKTAILS
7:00-9:00 DINNER & AUCTION
CATERED BY SALTY'S BBQ IN BAKERSFIELD

THE HISTORIC FORT
915 N. 10TH STREET, TAFT CA 93268
TICKETS \$75 EACH
TABLE (8) SPONSORSHIPS \$500
PLEASE CALL 661-763-7829



MASTER OF CEREMONIES
MATT MAIOCCO
*COMAST SPORTSNET
*SAN FRANCISCO
49ER BEAT WRITER

Auction

* LIVE AUCTION
* SILENT AUCTION



Featuring Charlie Hough
25 YEAR MAJOR LEAGUE
BASEBALL VETERAN
CURRENTLY SERVES AS
DODGERS SENIOR
ADVISOR OF PLAYER



Shannon Grove releases the following statement regarding Governor Brown's proposed 2016-17 budget

SACRAMENTO – Assemblywoman Shannon Grove responded to Governor Jerry Brown's proposed 2016-17 state budget:

"California taxpayers' dollars have poured into the state treasury this past year at an even higher amount than anticipated, and yet Governor Brown insists he wants more money in his proposed \$122 billion spending plan," Assemblywoman Shannon Grove said. "It seems no matter how much money the taxpayers send to Sacramento, the politicians still want to raid their pocketbooks even more."

"Our state desperately needs to fix its poorly maintained highway system, but Brown's budget plans to fund it in part with additional fees and taxes, including a new \$65 fee on all vehicles, as well as higher gas and diesel taxes. Brown's budget also fails to adequately fund community-based services for California's vulnerable developmentally disabled community, and instead ties their needed funding to the extension of an expiring tax," said Grove.

"On top of this, the state's desperate need for additional water storage to help our agriculture and urban areas continues to be ignored. It seems we have learned nothing from the last four years living with less snow and rain – we need to store the water when it comes, not dry up and shrivel when it doesn't."

"I want to see this Legislature tell the Governor and the people of California that our roads, our water supply, and those who truly need help from tax dollars should be the main focus when we debate the budget the next few months," Grove said. "It is wrong to shirk our responsibility – to use working people's tax dollars wisely and cautiously, and prioritize legitimate needs first, not last or never."

Grove represents the citizens of California's 34th Assembly District, covering a majority of Kern County.

Executive Directions

By Dr. Kathy Orrin, Executive Director

Cars parked at the Chamber on Wednesday nights make us Chamber staff folks look good. I could tell you at Shannon and I were burning the midnight oil on Chamber work, but the reality is that the English-speaking portion of the Small Business Academy (SBA) meets on Wednesday evenings here at the Chamber. Yours truly is one of six faithful members of that class.

As you may know, I started a home-based direct-marketing business last July. Wanting to do everything correctly, I immediately went to the City and applied for a business license. I must admit, I was very surprised at the (prorated) cost of the license (\$116). I understood why folks are reluctant to license their home-based businesses when the expense, initially, for the small piece of paper to hang . . . where? my dining room? . . . is rather high. I was even more surprised when I received the Renewal form which now will charge me based upon my success as a new business owner. The better I have done—monetarily—these past six months, the more money I will have to give to the City for my license renewal fee. Again, I understand why folks conduct business *underground*.

The good news, however, is that I (along with my five classmates) am learning a lot of good stuff. We have heard from James A. Joro, Esq. of Chain, Cohn, Stiles who spoke to us about Workers' Compensation. In the coming weeks we will hear other guest speakers from Wells Fargo Bank, the Small Business Development Center (SBDC), a Certified Public Accountant and Tax Specialist, and our own Ed Herrera will speak to the class about insurance. Our leader, Norma Rojas-Mora, is also leading us through the process of writing our own business plans.

Another positive outcome of the Small Business Academy is that many existing businesses are coming to an understanding of the importance of legitimatizing their enterprises by obtaining the proper licenses and permits to be able to operate in the light. Many businesses that are part of the SBA have done so since the beginning of the classes.

The Small Business Academy is offered free of charge through a grant obtained by the Kern County Hispanic Chamber, your Taft Chamber, Taft High, and Taft College. Classes are offered in both Spanish and English and will end in February.



PLUS
Taft Inn

Main Street & South 6th Street



Grand Opening

January 14, 2016 - 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM



Guest Room Sneak Peak

Property Tours and Explore our Amenities
Enjoy Drinks and Appetizers.



203 South 6th Street, Taft, CA 93268

Phone (661)-745-5555 Fax (661) 745-5999

www.bestwestern.com



**GRAND
OPENING**



518 CENTER STREET
661-745-4110

January 2016

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

					1 New Year's Day CHAMBER CLOSED! 6-10pm, First Friday Cruise Night	3
	4 School Resumes	5 No City Council Meeting 6:30-8:30pm, Small Business Academy	6 9am, Sit n Sip, Taft Chamber 6pm, Industry Night, Taft Petroleum Club 6:30-8:30pm, Small Business	7	8	9
10	11 11:30am, Kern County 150-year Planning Luncheon	12 6:30-8:30pm, Small Business Academy	13 9am, Sit n Sip, Taft Chamber 4pm, Taft Chamber Board Meeting 6pm, Wine Down Wednesday	14 3-5pm, Grand Opening, Best Western Hotel	15	16 11am, Relay for Life Kick off meeting @ The Fort
17	18 Martin Luther King Jr Day	19 6pm, City Council Meeting 6:30-8:30pm, Small Business Academy	20 9am, Sit n Sip, Taft Chamber 6pm, Planning Commission Meeting 6:30-8:30pm, Small Business Academy	21	22 6pm, Taft College Triple Play Dinner @ The Fort	23 5:30pm, Casa Kick-off Celebrations Party
24	25	26 11am, Taft College Foundation Check Presentation, ETEC 6:30-8:30pm, Small Business	27 9am, Sit n Sip, Taft Chamber 6:30-8:30pm, Small Business Academy	28 5pm, Friends of the Fort Annual Dinner	29	30
31						

February 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	1	2 12-6pm, Houchin Blood Mobile 6pm, City Council Meeting	3 9am, Sit n Sip, Taft Chamber 6pm, Petroleum Club Industry Night	4	5 6-10pm, First Friday Car Cruise	6 7pm, Westside Recreation Father-Daughter Dance
7  SUPER BOWL FEBRUARY 7, 2016	8	9 Fat Tuesday	10 9am, Sit n Sip, Taft Chamber 4pm, Together We Can Meeting	11 6pm, Chamber Installation & Awards 	12	13
14 Valentine's Day	15 President's Day	16 6pm, City Council Meeting	17 9am, Sit n Sip, Taft Chamber 6pm, Planning Commission Mtg	18		20



March 2016

3, Kern COG Awards
12, Taft Chamber Golf Tournament
16, Rotary Reverse Drawing
29, Houchin Blood Mobile

Tax Help for Veterans

Visit: <http://www.boe.ca.gov/runner/veterans>

California is home to more than two million veterans who served the nation with dedication and pride. The Board of Equalization offers several tax breaks to those who served in the U.S. Armed Services.

These benefits are given as a token of appreciation for the great sacrifices that men and women in uniform make each day so Americans can continue to enjoy the rights and freedoms upon which our nation was built.

Below are links to resources that address specific questions and concerns. My staff and I look forward assisting you with any state tax issues you may have.

GO-Biz Hosting Free Webinars for Businesses Interested in Applying for \$75 Million in Tax Credits

California's Go-Biz office is offering a competitive tax credit for businesses looking to add full-time W-2 employees and make investments in their company. Businesses of all sizes are encouraged to apply for tax credits. The online application is available at www.calcompetes.ca.gov. Fill yours out today!

The website include a list of past recipients as well.

SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loans Available to Small Businesses

Small, nonfarm businesses in 33 California counties are now eligible for low-interest federal disaster loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration. These loans offset economic losses because of reduced revenues caused by the drought.

Apply online at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>

70TH
ANNUAL

A
STAR
WARS

2015

CHRISTMAS PARADE



Thank you to the 2015 Taft Chamber Members!

Join us in 2016 for another great year in Taft!

A Hint Of Class Bakery	Colston Construction, Inc.	LPL Financial	Taco Bell -
Accelerated Environmental Services, Inc.	Community Christian Fellowship	Lucard Apartments	Taft City School District
Acme Jewelry & Gifts	Comprehensive Care Systems	M & S Security Management & Training Corp (MTC)	Taft College & Foundation
Adam Bolla's Mobile Wash	Cooper's True Value Hardware	Mariscos Taco de Mexico	Taft College Cougar Corner Bookstore
Adventist Health - Central Valley General	Creekside Apartments	McKittrick Waste Management	Taft Community Gardens
Aera Energy LLC	David Janes Co.	Measure Me Mommie	Taft Holdings, LLC
AFLAC - Gary Hackler	Demand Pest Control	Mi Casita Restaurant	Taft Independent Newspaper
Albertsons	Distribution NOW	Midway Laboratory	Taft Lions Club
Alliance Tax Credit Consulting, Inc	Dr. David Cothrun	Mike's Pool Service	Taft Midway Driller
Alloy Construction	Dr. James L. Simonson	Miller, Randy & Ginny	Taft Midway Sunset Lions Club
Alpha House Women's Shelter	Dr. Loretta Garcia Lipscomb	Monarch Fleet Services & Automotive	Taft Motorcycle Club
Alvarez Gifts & Crafts	Edward J. Herrera Insurance Agency	Monarch Wireless	Taft News Now
Alvarez Tax Service	Employer's Training Resource	Napa - Country Auto & Truck	Taft Plumbing Co., Inc.
Alzheimer's Disease Association	Erickson & Brown Funeral Home	New Horizon Financial Services	Taft Production Company Oil -Dri
Amazing Bounce	Express Employment Professionals	Oildale Tire N Taft	Taft Sky Sports, Inc.
American Cancer Society	Extreme Wireless	Old's Cool Antiques & More	Taft Sportsmen's Club, Inc.
AmeriFirst Financial, Inc.	Fairouzah Merchant	Omni Family Health	Taft Union High School
NMLS 145368	Fastrip Food Store #929	OT Cookhouse & Saloon	Terrachem, Inc.
Anderson Business Service, Inc.	Faulkner, Tom	Pacific Perforating	The Arc - Taft
Anderson, Ken	First Baptist Church of Taft	Paik's Ranch House	The Fort Preservation Society
Armstrong Locksmithing	Foothill Farms DBA SZ Ranch	Personal Style Salon & Boutique	Total Western Inc.
Ashley, Janice	Freeport McMoran Oil & Gas	PG&E	TRC Operating Company, Inc.
Asian Experience	Friends of Temblor	Pizza Factory	T's Taxi
ATP Homes LLC	General Production Services, Inc.	Precision Bodyworks	Tumbleweed Cafe
Bangs and Tangles Hair & Nail Salon	Hall Ambulance Service, Inc.	Proforma Solutions for Printing	United Security Bank
Banks Pest Control Inc	Hatch, Ray & Lodema	Randy's Trucking, Inc.	Unity Thrift & Outreach
Becky Ashcraft, Realtor	Helt Engineering, Inc.	Ray Morgan Co.	Vibul Tangpraphaphorn, M. D. Inc.
Ben's Books	Heritage Park	Razor's Edge	Waldrop's Auto Parts
Best Western	Hodel's Dining	Reina's Mobile #2	West Hills Church of the Nazarene.
Black Gold Brewing Company	Holland Inn & Suites	Revival Worship/United Pentecostal Church	West Kern Oil Museum
Black, Bill	Hosking, Harry & Carolyn	Roger Miller Insurance Agency	West Kern Water District
Black/Hall Construction	Huddleston Crane Service, Inc.	Rosemary & Thyme	West Side Mosquito & Vector Control Distr
Bright House Networks-m	IDI-Tech	Rotary Club of Taft	West Side Recreation & Park Dist.
California Independent Petroleum Associat	Independent Oil Producers Agency	S&S Printing	West Side ROP
California Resources Corporation	Integrity Bookkeeping.	Sagebrush Annie's	West Side Senior Care
Calvary Temple Assembly of God	Interfaith Electric & Fire	SCORE Golden Empire, Chapter 563	West Valley Real Estate
Campos Tire Service	J & D Recycling	Sears Taft/Kitchen Tune Up	WestAmerica Bank
CASA of Kern County	J. Sterling Bryan, D.D.S., P. C.	Shar-On Corporation	Western States Petroleum Association
Cavins Oil Well Tools	Jack's Flower/Trophy Shop	Snow Well Service, Inc.	Westside Believer's Fellowship
Central Cities Pizza, Inc	Jo's Restaurant	Soroptimist International of Taft	Westside Christian Ministers' Association
Dominos	Joyce Properties	Southwest Signs	Westside Economic Development Company, LL
Charles J. Walker D.D.S., Inc.	Kern Citizens for Energy	St. Andrew's Episcopal Church	Westside Furniture c
Chevron	Kern Street Pharmacy	State Farm Insurance Agency	Westside Health Care District
Chevron Valley Credit Union	Killingsworth, Vic L.	State Farm Insurance Kathy Herm	Willow Ranch Restaurant.
Chicken of Oz	Kiwanis Club of Taft	Sunrise Power	
Circle of Love	La Salsa Family Restaurant	Sunset Rails	
City of Taft	Lighthouse Foursquare Church	Swearengin, John	
Coldwell Banker Preferred, Realtors	LINN Energy		

**2015
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

President: Emmanuel Campos
Monarch Fleet Services

1st Vice President: Ron Sousa
Albertsons

2nd Vice President: Jordan Miller
Roger Miller Insurance Agency

Treasurer: Bart Hill
United Security Bank

Devinder Bains
Taft Chevrolet—Buick

Glenn Black
Black/Hall Construction

Eric Burkhardt
Total Western Inc.

Les Clark
West Side Recreation and Park District

Tony Cordova
Synagro

Bob Hampton
Westside Waste Management

Ed Herrera
Edward J Herrera Insurance Agency

Sharon Hill
Taft Union High School

Sandy Koenig
Westside Community Resource Center

Orchel Krier
Tumbleweed Café

Dr. Dena Maloney
Taft College

Yvette Mayfield
City of Taft

John Neumann
Accelerated Environmental

Alicia Price
Aera Energy LLC

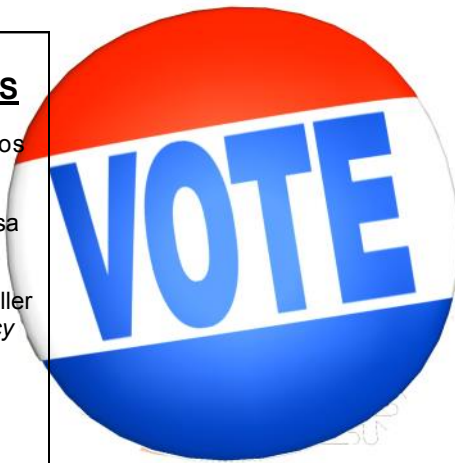
Dennis Schertz
Asian Experience

Harry Starkey
West Kern Water District

John Swearingin
Kern County Sheriff's Office

Adele Ward
Taft City School District

Rodney Wikoff
West Hills Church of the Nazarene



CAST YOUR VOTE!

2015 Taft Chamber Recognitions

Presented at the Chamber Installation
Dinner on Thursday, February 11

Please nominate no more than one in
each category.

Taft Chamber Board of Directors will
select the winners.

Email nominations to taftchamber@gmail.com or drop off at
400 Kern Street by January 13.

Business Man of the Year

Business Woman of the Year

Business of the Year

Volunteer of the Year

Community Service Award

**TAFT OILWORKERS MONUMENT
SPACE IS LIMITED!!**

Call us at 661-765-2165 to order a
brick for that special oilfield
worker or family member to be
placed at the Taft Oilworkers
Monument.

4x8 Brick: \$100—8x8 Brick: \$175



SAVE THE DATE!

**Taft Chamber
Annual Golf Classic**

Saturday,

March 12, 2016

**Buena Vista Golf
Course**

Teams of 4—\$500

Call 661-765-2165

OUR STAFF

Executive Director: Dr. Kathy Orrin
kathy.taftchamber@gmail.com

Event Coordinator: Shannon Jones
shannon.taftchamber@gmail.com



**400 Kern Street
Taft, CA 93268
661-765-2165**

www.taftchamber.com



Masks & Mimosas

A Mardi Gras Soiree

Items You Might Donate for the Silent Auction

- Themed Baskets (i.e. Golf, Camping, Outdoors, Wine & Cheese, Sports, Tools, Food, Baking, Car Care, Beer, etc)
- BBQ w/ Accessories
- Vacation Getaway packages
- Tickets to a theme park or entertainment venue
- Hotel Stays
- Rounds of Golf
- Restaurant Gift Cards
- Date Night
- Jewelry & Accessories
- Chocolates/Candy/Food Baskets
- Electronics (iPod, iPad, Camera, TV, DVD, Docking Stations, Headphones)
- Tickets to the Theater or Activity
- Kindle, Nook, or other e-readers
- Spa Packages, Manicures, Pedicures
- Tickets to a sporting event
- Lift Tickets at a ski resort
- Luggage, Bags, Purses
- Artwork
- Men's or Women's Watches
- Airline Tickets
- Gift Cards to Local Retailers
- Business Themed Items
- Membership
- Visa Cards
- Gas Cards
- Home decor

On Thursday, February 11, 2016, the Taft Chamber is hosting the Annual Chamber Installation Dinner and Community Awards Ceremony at the Taft Fox Theater. We invite you to participate in the event in a variety of ways. Your business, service club, or organization can donate a themed basket or group of items for the silent auction (something new for us this year!), purchase tickets to attend the event, sponsor the event, or bid on silent auction items at the event.

Your donation will be recognized at the event, during the auction, in the program, media advertisements, and event slideshow.

Please return the bottom portion of the form with your auction items to the Taft Chamber at 400 Kern Street by February 6. We will provide a donation receipt for your records. Proceeds from the Silent Auction will benefit Chamber programs, the Downtown Business Committee, and the Taft Fireworks Show.

____ Yes! I want to donate an item for the Chamber Installation Silent Auction

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Items donated: _____

Approximate value \$ _____

Detailed Description of auction items: _____

Restriction(s): Not valid during: _____ Black Out Dates: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Questions? Contact Shannon Jones at 661-765-2165 or taftchamber@gmail.com

“FRIENDS OF THE FORT”
THE FORT PRESERVATION SOCIETY
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE & DINNER
Thursday Evening ~ January 28, 2016

Social Hour & Music at 5:00 pm followed by Dinner at 6:00 pm

At The Historic Fort – 915 N. 10th Street in Taft
Dinner Tickets: \$20.00

I would like to make _____ reservations for the Annual Dinner at The Historic Fort on **January 28.**

Dinner Tickets: **\$20.00** Enclosed is my check for \$ _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Please make checks to: The Fort Preservation Society

PLEASE RETURN YOUR DINNER RESERVATIONS BY THURSDAY, JANUARY 18

“FRIENDS OF THE FORT”
THE FORT PRESERVATION SOCIETY
YEARLY MEMBERSHIP & SPONSORSHIP APPLICATIONS



- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prospector (Individual) - \$15.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Bronze Corporate Sponsorship - \$1,000.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gold Nugget (Family) - \$25.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Silver Corporate Sponsorship - \$2,500.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gold Rush (Sustaining) - \$75.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Gold Corporate Sponsorship - \$5,000.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Golden (Memorial) - \$150.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Platinum Corporate Sponsorship - \$10,000.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mother Lode (Business) - \$250.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Diamond Corporate Sponsorship - \$25,000.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sutter's Club (Life) - \$500.00 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Photographer - \$100.00 – <u>Photos by Appointment Only – 661-765-7371</u> | |

Dollar amounts within classification are intended to encourage applicants to donate as much as they wish. All donations are appreciated! *Please make checks to: The Fort Preservation Society.*

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ E-mail _____

☐ I would like to volunteer my time to help with Fort fund-raisers and special events.

☐ I would like to volunteer my time to help in The Olive Branch Fort Gift Shop

PLEASE RETURN MEMBERSHIP AND RSVP TO:
THE HISTORIC FORT — 915 N. 10TH STREET, SUITE 2 – TAFT, CALIFORNIA 93268
FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL THE FORT OFFICE AT 661-765-7371

“PRESERVING THE PAST FOR THE FUTURE”

December 10, 2015

Dear Taft College Friend:

The "hot stove" baseball season is in full swing and the 3rd annual Taft College Triple Play Dinner & Auction is nearing the on-deck circle.

The event will be held again at The Historic Fort in Taft on Friday, January 22, 2016, with a no host cocktail bar starting at 6:00 pm and the dinner will begin at 7:00 pm.

The Taft College Athletic Department is proud to announce Charlie Hough as this year's keynote speaker. Hough was a 25-year major league baseball veteran who pitched for the Los Angeles Dodgers from 1970-1980, the Texas Rangers from 1980-1990, the Chicago White Sox from 1991-1992, concluding his career with the Florida Marlins from 1993-1994 at the age of 46.

Hough currently serves as the Los Angeles Dodgers senior advisor of player development. He is also a member of the Texas Rangers Baseball Hall of Fame. In 2012 he starred in the movie **Knuckleball!** along with fellow knuckleball pitchers R.A. Dickey, Tim Lincecum and Phil Niekro. In his career Hough won 216 games, along with a 3.75 era and 2,362 strikeouts.

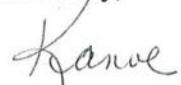
The Master of Ceremonies for the evening will be San Francisco 49ers beat writer Matt Maiocco of Comcast SportsNet Bay Area. Maiocco has been a San Francisco 49ers beat writer since 1995. He is also the author of three books; **Roger Craig's Tales from the 49ers Sidelines** (2004), **SF 49ers; Where Have You Gone?** (2005) and **SF 49ers; The Complete Illustrated History** (2013).

The third annual Triple Play Dinner and Auction will be catered by Salty's Barbeque.

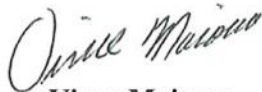
All proceeds for this event will help support the Taft College athletic programs. Individual tickets to this event are \$75 each. Sponsor tables that seat eight people can be purchased for \$500.

Please contact the Taft College Athletic Department at (661) 763-7829.

Sincerely,



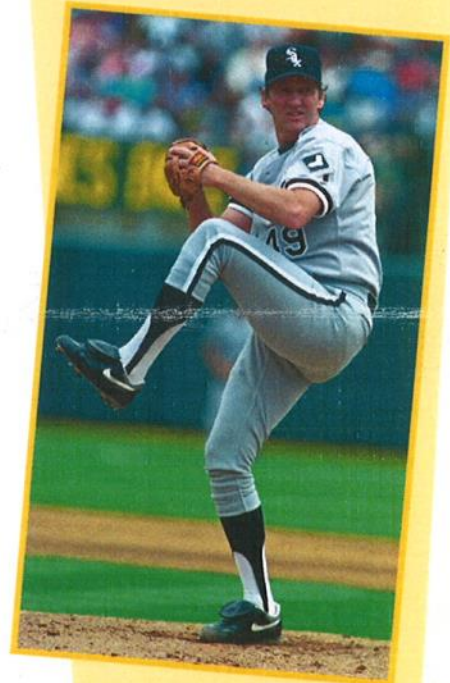
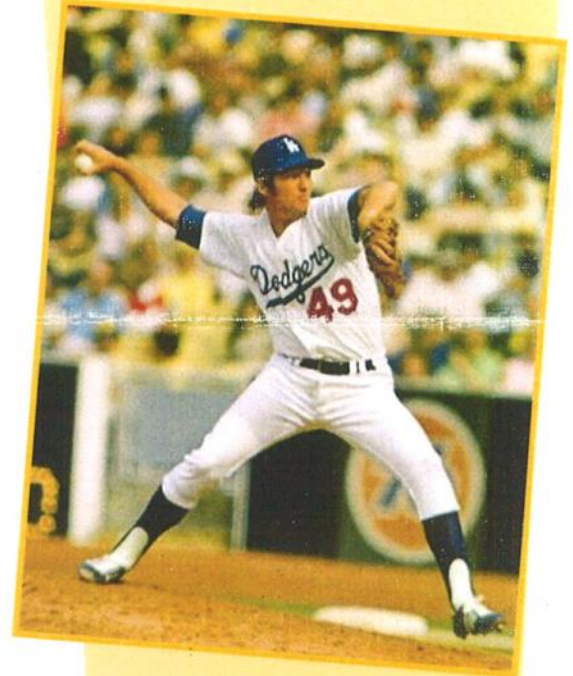
Kanoe Bandy
Director of Athletics



Vince Maiocco
Head Baseball Coach



Triple Play Dinner & Auction



Guest Speaker
Charlie Hough